

Labor Day 2005 Message

From the Commander of the United States Army Field Artillery Center & Fort Sill

In 1894 President Cleveland and Congress declared Labor Day an official government holiday, set aside to recognize the American Worker and is the traditional end of the Summer Season. Across our nation families and friends will come together this weekend to celebrate both their hard work and success.

Soldiers take steps to minimize risk and ensure a safe outcome in every activity they undertake. We should approach this holiday weekend in a similar manner. As you celebrate this weekend keep in mind that although the purpose of this holiday is to relax and celebrate, we all have an important job to do when we return. I ask that each of you get the proper rest before traveling, wear your seatbelts at all times, avoid risky behavior behind the wheel, and drink responsibly.

Before leaving on this Holiday Weekend, I would like to thank every Soldier for their hard work and dedication this year in service to our great nation. As we gather with our family and friends this weekend let's remember that we are celebrating the hard work of not only our Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, Airmen, and Allies, but also their sacrifices made daily on our behalf. I want everyone to return to duty as safely and healthy as they were before the extended weekend. Have a safe and enjoyable Labor Day Weekend.



David C. Ralston
Major General, U.S. Army
Commanding